COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF:

APPLICATION OF EAST KENTUCKY)
POWER COOPERATIVE FOR A)
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE)DOCKET NO.
AND NECESSITY FOR CONSTRUCTION)2005-00207
OF TRANSMISSION FACILITIES IN)
BARREN, WARREN, BUTLER, AND)
OHIO COUNTIES, KENTUCKY)

TESTIMONY OF EMILY PERKINS SHARP

Filed: September 6, 2005

1 Q. What is your name and address?

- 2 A. My name is Emily Perkins Sharp. My address is 906 Water Willow Court, Birmingham,
- 3 AL 35244.

4 Q. What is your interest in this case?

- 5 A. EKPC proposed to route its transmission line through my family's land. My family owns
- 6 property that lies between Russellville Road (US 68) and Blue Level Road (US 432) in Warren
- 7 County, Kentucky. The majority of our land is contained in two connecting farms, known as
- 8 Keystone Farm and Hemlock Heights, both of which we have owned for over 30 years.

9 Q. What are your concerns about East Kentucky Power Cooperative's proposed

10 transmission line?

- 11 A. Despite that fact that we received a letter stating only one farm, Hemlock Heights, would
- be affected and that the other farm, Keystone Farm with its 160-plus year old house, would not,
- we are now faced with the lines cutting a 150-foot wide path through both farms. It seems as
- though an alleged "clerical error" caused the letter to be sent which originally spared our 1840's
- 15 homesite, but the photo map of the line route clearly showed it cutting across Keystone Farm.

16 Q. Did EKPC tell you why it changed its mind?

- 17 A. They said it was a clerical error that we received that letter and both properties would be
- involved. We have met several times with representatives of EKPC and tried to work out a route
- that would have the least impact on our property. Unfortunately, we are still not able to agree on
- what that route would be. They would all have a devastating impact.

21 Q. What impact will the proposed line have on your farms?

- 22 A. We have two properties that will be cut in two by the lines. Based on the initial route, I
- 23 calculated that a corridor 6000 feet long and 150 feet wide will be taken from us. The latest

route could be far more than that. Prime timber that provides a home to wild turkeys, deer, and 24 other wildlife will be destroyed, fields that feed our cattle will be contaminated with the 25 herbicides used to control the growth of vegetation under these lines. The runoff of water 26 through these chemicals will pollute streams and rivers - your water supply. Our cattle are 27 primarily grass and hay fed from the fields EKPC is targeting. We rely on our fields to supply 28 grass in the good weather, and we cut hay from them for cattle and horses food in the winter. 29 The herbicides that EKPC would have the power to use to keep down brush could have serious 30 impact on grazing heifers with calves, both during gestational and nursing periods. In addition, 31 I'm assuming that EKPC maintenance trucks would have access to our farm and be a danger to 32 cattle, calves and horses alike. This farm is tucked away from the main roads and has always 33 been a private retreat. This would destroy the privacy and security we have known there all 34 these years. We have an historic home and log barn that have been there since Warren County's 35 earliest days. The historic Keystone Quarry, which provided the limestone used in many of 36 Bowling Green's public buildings as well as, I'm told, the US Treasury in Washington, is also in 37 the path of these lines. There is a cave which, from past findings of Indian artifacts in the area, 38 could have archaeological interest. My family has tried to be good stewards of this land for more 39 than 30 years. We have tried to protect the natural beauty and preserve it for our children and 40 grandchildren. I cannot imagine how we can ever feel comfortable driving through the gate of 41 our farm toward the house with thousands of feet of high voltage lines in view as we wind our 42 43 way along the driveway beneath them.

Q. What alternatives do you believe have not been adequately studied?

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45 A When we received letters advising us of the open house this spring, we did not know 46 how much our properties would be involved. We have cooperated with utility companies in the past. At the top of our hill, there is a City water tank with an easement for a road accessing it. This tank provides water for the surrounding area. The lines will go across these as well. When you look at the aerial photo, it seems as though EKPC has gone out of its way to dissect almost all of our land right down the middle. At present, the proposed route is not direct from the substation, but rather, it jogs the opposite direction, enters our land on US68, crosses a heavily wooded hill that contains the historic Keystone Quarry and then goes completely across the middle of some of our best fields, skirts, and possibly requires the removal of, an 1800's log barn and exits the far side of our property, leaving a trail of destruction and irreversible harm in its path. In a March 2005 article, the Daily News stated EKPC had told the Warren Co. Fiscal Court they intended to "mostly follow existing paths." We now know our properties' involvement will be huge, and the impact far greater than EKPC pledged. The promise to "mostly follow existing paths" has proved to be empty as hundreds of people are now faced with losing their property to these new transmission lines. Now about 700 property owners are involved in what appears to be mostly new transmission line paths. The 100- foot wide easement stated in the Open House packet has been changed to a 150-foot wide easement. Other routes must be considered before this project is approved. The use of existing lines, underground lines, and easements along public right of ways, would reduce the impact of this project tremendously. In Connecticut, the legislature has passed a law that presumes high-power transmission line will go underground unless it is proved they cannot. In Virginia this summer, Dominion Power Co.'s estimates that underground lines cost significantly more than aboveground lines were shown to be incorrect. Studies have shown that using underground lines is a viable option used across the country. The placement of more high voltage transmission lines across prime farmland and forests should not be the only option.

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- No attempt has been made to take these new lines along existing routes. The
- environmental and historic impact study is not complete and there are no plans to file it until next
- spring, yet the route is being planned. Following existing paths with existing lines, public rights
- of way, and utilizing underground lines wherever feasible would lessen the impact of this project
- 74 tremendously.
- 75 Q. How do you believe the Commission should rule in this case?
- 76 A. The Commission should deny EKPC's application.
- 77 Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- 78 A. Yes.

VERIFICATION

COUNTY OF Manon	
STATE OF KENTUCKY) ss :

The undersigned, Emily Perkins Sharp, being duly sworn, deposes and says she has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing testimony, and that the answers contained therein are true and correct to the best of her information, knowledge, and belief.

Emily Perkins Sharp

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and before said County and State, This Aday of September 2005.

HOTAKI KUBLICA

My commission expires:

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing was duly served by mailing, first class postage prepaid to the following:

Hon. A. W. Turner
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Boulevard
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, Kentucky 40602
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Hugh Hendrick 4140 Scottsville Road Smiths Grove, KY 42171 Joey Roberts 4234 Scottsville Road Smiths Grove, KY 42171

This the 6^{t} day of September, 2005.

Robert W. Griffith

Robert W. Griffith

/Jennifer B. Swyers

Stites & Harbison, PLLC

400 W. Market Street

Suite 1800

Louisville, KY 40202

Counsel for Intervenors Carroll and Doris Tichenor and John Colliver

TI061:000TI:474449:1:LOUISVILLE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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BARREN, WARREN, BUTLER, AND)	
OHIO COUNTIES, KENTUCKY	,)	

TESTIMONY OF JOHN H. COLLIVER

Filed: September 6, 2005

Q. What is your name and address?

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- A. My name is John H. Colliver. My address 633 Salem Church Road, Cave City, Kentucky
 42127.
- 4 Q. What is your interest in this case?
- 5 A. I own a farm that will be affected by the Barren-Oakland-Magna segment of EKPC's
 6 proposed transmission line.
- 7 Q. What are the unique characteristics of your property?
- My farm, and the affected farms of my neighbors in Barren County, are situated within
 the Green River Watershed. As you know, the Green River is the most biologically
 diverse and rich branch of the Ohio River system. The greatest aquatic diversity occurs
 in a 100-mile section of unhindered river that flows from the Green River Reservoir dam
 through Mammoth Cave National Park in south central Kentucky. This section of the
 Green River Watershed includes over 917,000 acres in the counties of Adair, Barren,
 Edmonson, Green, Hart, Metcalfe, Russell, and Taylor.

The Green River Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) has been hailed a success by the Nature Conservancy due to farmers such as myself adhering to practices that conserve the soil. The goals and objectives of the Green River CREP are:

• To reduce by 10% the amount of sediment, nutrients, and pesticides from agricultural sources entering the tributaries and main stem of the Green River and Mammoth Cave

System through the installation of best management practices designed for that purpose, and other conservation practices designed to improve water quality.

- To enhance habitats and populations of wildlife, including those listed as state and federal special concern, rare, threatened and endangered.
 - To sustain and restore the composition, structure, and function of riparian habitat corridors associated with the Green River and tributary watersheds.
 - To reconnect habitat types in order to restore the full range of ecosystem function.
 - To establish buffers around sinkholes, targeting 1000 high priority sinkholes.
 - To sustain and restore non-riparian wetlands.

- To protect and restore subterranean ecosystems.
- To collect, store, and analyze data to enhance planning for sustaining the health of the watershed.
- To develop an outreach program targeting all active agricultural producers in the area.
- To utilize native species, including warm season grasses, to the greatest extent possible.

Because our section of the Green River has been identified as such a special place, state and federal agencies provide financial support to farmowners in the form of a land "set aside" program, offering enhanced annual rental, cost share, and incentive payments. In addition to the payments referenced above, we may elect to enter our land into a supplemental permanent conservation easement to receive additional incentive payments. Practices most commonly utilized in the Green River CREP region include riparian buffers, native grass planting, hardwood tree planting, and filter strips.

The proposed transmission line runs directly through this special part of the Green River Watershed. The line will undermine my conservation efforts and the efforts of my neighbors and state and federal agencies. The line will threaten the continuity of the watershed. Not only do I and my neighbors care about our own farms. We are equally

studied the impact, it has created no plan for mitigation, and it has given no thought to avoiding this area or our farms. Instead, EKPC has tried to "take advantage" of the very areas that the Green River CREP seeks to protect.

Q. What do you mean when you say that EKPC has tried to "take advantage"?

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In their routing study, EKPC stated that the selected route "takes advantage of" agricultural areas. I, and my neighbors, challenge this reasoning. We regard prime farm land as a finite resource that we need to conserve so that future generations can continue to grow crops to feed our people. The proposed line will severely limit future use of the land and will be a major impediment for farm equipment. EKPC's cluttering of the land with lines and poles is unnecessary.

Q. Will the proposed line affect your farm and Barren County in other ways?

Yes. The proposed line crosses some of the best farm land in Barren County. Barren County is home to one of Kentucky's largest per-county populations of livestock.

Documented adverse effects on dairy cattle from the positioning on dairy farms of transmission lines require EKPC to fully account for its decision to site the proposed line through Barren County farmland. Stray voltage resulting from the proposed transmission line may adversely affect dairy and livestock production. To be clear, I will quote from "Environmental Impacts of Transmission Lines," Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, July 2004, p. 10, a study commissioned by the Wisconsin Public Service Commission: "For the past 20 years, stray voltage has been vigorously studied.

Electrical systems are grounded to the earth to ensure safety and reliability as required by the National Electric Safety Code. Because of this, some current flows through the earth

at each point where the electrical system is grounded and a small voltage develops. This voltage is called neutral-to-earth voltage (NEV). When NEV is measured between two objects that may be simultaneously contacted by an animal, it is considered stray voltage. Low levels of AC voltage on the grounded conductors of a farm wiring system are a normal and unavoidable consequence of operating electrical farm equipment. Stray voltage often is not noticeable to humans, but may be felt by an animal. For example, a dairy cow may feel a small electric shock when it makes contact with an energized water trough. . . . Dairy cow behaviors that may indicate the presence of stray voltage include nervousness at milking time, increased defecation or urination during milking, hesitation in approaching waterers or feeders, or eagerness to leave the barn. A stray voltage problem may be reflected in increased milking time, in uneven milking, and sometimes with decreased milk production."

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin requires applicants to document the potential for such effects, and, where necessary, protect against them by re-routing a proposed line or participating in mitigation practices after a line is constructed. Before any application is certified, the Wisconsin Commission evaluates these effects. Indeed, it warns utilities against the siting of transmission lines on dairy farms. I'm sure we can all agree that the effects documented by the Wisconsin Commission are not limited to the state of Wisconsin. The Kentucky Commission should follow Wisconsin's lead.

Finally, farms throughout Butler, Barren, Warren, and Ohio Counties whose operations utilize Global Positioning Systems may suffer from the Radio Interference caused by the high voltage lines. Interference by transmission lines with these

91		positioning systems is well-documented, and results can be very damaging. EKPC has
92		failed to account for these impacts and the resulting costs to landowners.
93	Q.	Has EKPC accounted in any way for these impacts?
94	A.	No. EKPC has completely ignored these impacts. Nothing in the record indicates
95		that EKPC even considered the possibility of these impacts.
96	Q.	How should the Commission decide in this case?
97	A.	Based on these concerns, I respectfully request that the Public Service Commission
98		decline to approve this project until EKPC gives adequate consideration to all of the
99		impacts of its proposed project. The Commission should order EKPC to utilize existing
100		rights-of-way to the maximum extent possible, avoid prime farm land, and comply with
01		Federal law.
102	Q.	Does this conclude your testimony?
03	A.	Yes.
04 105 106		VERIFICATION
(07 08 09 10	COU	NTY OF <u>Jefferson</u>)) ss: TE OF KENTUCKY)
11 12 13 14	know	The undersigned, John H. Colliver, being duly sworn, deposes and says he has personal ledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing testimony, and that the answers contained n are true and correct to the best of his information, knewledge, and belief.
115 116 117 118		John H. Colliver
19 120 121	Subso This	ribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and before said County and State, 2005.
122 123		ane I Septens

124	NOTARY PUBLIC
125 126	My commission expires: AvgvsT 11, 2009
127	Try commission expires.
128	
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130	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
131	
132	I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing was duly served by mailing, first class
133	postage prepaid to the following:
134	YY A XXI TI
135 136	Hon. A. W. Turner
137	Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulevard
138	P.O. Box 615
139	Frankfort, Kentucky 40602
140	Aw.turner@ky.gov
141	
142	Elizabeth O'Donnell
143	Executive Director
144	Commonwealth of Kentucky
145	Public Service Commission
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149 150	Roser D. Carredon
151	Roger R. Cowden Sherman Goodpaster
152	East Kentucky Power Cooperative
153	4775 Lexington Road
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155	Winchester, KY 40392-0707
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157	Attorney General Greg Stumbo
158	Office of the Attorney General
159	State Capitol, Suite 118
160	Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
161	Tomas M. A. Cillian
162 163	James M. Miller Tyson Kamuf
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168	David A. Spainhoward
169	VP, Contract Administration and Regulatory Affairs

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173 174 175	Hugh Hendrick 4140 Scottsville Road Smiths Grove, KY 42171	
176 177 178 179 180	Joey Roberts 4234 Scottsville Road Smiths Grove, KY 42171	
181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196	This the 6th day of September, 2005.	Robert W. Griffith Jennifer B. Swyers Stites & Harbison, PLLC 400 W. Market Street Suite 1800 Louisville, KY 40202 Counsel for Intervenors Carroll and Doris Tichenor and John Colliver
198		
199 200		
201 202 203	TI061:000TI:474448:1:LOUISVILLE	

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BARREN, WARREN, BUTLER, AND)
OHIO COUNTIES, KENTUCKY	·)

TESTIMONY OF DORIS TICHENOR

Filed: September 6, 2005

Q. What is your name and address?

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- A. My name is Doris Tichenor. My husband, Carroll, and I live at 1086 Annis Ferry Road,

 Morgantown, Kentucky 42261. Carroll has reviewed this testimony and we submit this

 testimony together.
- 5 Q. What is your interest in this case?
- My husband, Carroll, and I own Annis Ferry Farm in the Big Bend community of

 Butler County. This farm has been owned by my family for 100 years and was

 recognized as a Heritage Farm by the Kentucky Heritage Council in 1992. Our farm

 is directly in the path of the Wilson-Aberdeen segment of the proposed power line and

 would be severely impacted. We have felt so strongly about protecting our land that when

 our first grandson was born 17 years ago, we revised our estate plan so that our farm with

 its historic sites could not be sold and would be passed on to our grandchildren.

Q. What are the unique characteristic of your land?

Four sites on our farm are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. One of these is Carson's Landing, a two-acre historic site on Green River which was the location of a ferry, steamboat landing, livestock scales, a warehouse and store, two post offices at different times and a fully restored 1854 house. The National Register nomination for this site noted that it is "one of the few sites in Butler County that represents the commerce and transportation along the Green River and is a material reminder of the importance of the Green River as an artery for transportation, commerce, and communication for Logansport, Butler County, and Kentucky." The nomination stated, "Because the location, setting, materials, and workmanship have been maintained, Carson's Landing still evokes a sense of past time and place . . . The nominated property has contributed to

the development of a larger rural historic landscape and reflects the tradition of the river and culture." Registration Form, Carson's Landing, Annis Ferry Farm/BT-1, National Register of Historic Places.

The other three National Register sites encompass Annis Mound and Village and Sand Mound archaeological sites, which have been the subject of investigation by archaeologists over the past 65 years, most recently by Pennsylvania State University faculty and students in 2003 and 2004. Nearly a dozen scientific papers and a doctoral dissertation have resulted from these investigations. During the field work, evidence was found suggesting the presence of three additional unexcavated locations for which site forms have been filed and recorded. The significance of Annis Mound and Village is widely recognized. Archaeologists around the country are familiar with these important sites. Letters have been written by Dr. Patty Jo Watson, Edward Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor Emerita, Washington University, St. Louis, and Dr. George M. Crothers, Ph.D., Director, William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology and Office of State Archaeology, requesting to be consulting parties in the Section 106 process regarding potential effects this project may have on these important archaeological resources.

Q. Does the proposed transmission line affect these sites?

A. Part of the Carson's Landing site is within the selected corridor and all of it is within
1500 feet of the probable right of way. All of the archaeological sites are within the
presently selected power line corridor.

Q. Were historic sites considered by EKPC in their siting study?

No. The siting study commissioned by EKPC does not acknowledge the existence of any National Register structures or districts anywhere within the proposed 30-mile Wilson-Aberdeen corridor. However, EKPC must select a route that avoids any adverse impact to these sites or, at the very least, minimizes the impact. EKPC acknowledges that it has this obligation. In a press interview published on August 28 (Bowling Green Daily News) an EKPC representative is quoted as saying: "Since we receive federal loans through the Rural Utility Service, this requires us to comply with the National Environmental Protection Act . . . That means we have to, on a project of this scope, conduct an environmental assessment. We have identified these sites. We are aware of them. As part of this process, we'll study the sites and present a report of our finding." Yet, EKPC is seeking immediate approval of the project, before any of the required assessments and processes have been completed. In effect, EKPC is asking this Commission to certify an unlawful project.

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Q. In what other ways will the proposed transmission line affect your property?

Carroll and I have invested a tremendous amount of our time, money and energy in our farm over the past thirty years. We have tried as hard as we could to leave the farm in better condition than it was when we took it over. We have invested more than a quarter of a million dollars in new and restored buildings, land improvement, reforestation and reintroduction of native grasses.

We have been personally responsible for crops and maintenance of this farm since 1975. All of our cropland is in the Green River flood plain and is subject to flooding about every five to seven years. The last two floods were in 1995 and 2002. The field where the proposed power line will cross the river on our farm is at the upper end of an

acute bend in the river. Since the beginning of cultivation a forested buffer strip has been maintained on our riverbanks to prevent floodwaters from sweeping away the topsoil from our fields. If the trees are removed from a 100 foot right of way at this location, leaving the riverbank unprotected, repeated flooding will sweep across this 42-acre field, washing topsoil down the river and eventually leaving the field worthless for farming or any other use. The economic loss resulting from permanent removal of this field from cultivation will be substantial.

Q. Did EKPC attempt to protect against floodplain erosion?

A.

No. The siting study commissioned by EKPC does not even mention the possibility of floodplain erosion. In fact, the study states that the preferred corridor "...takes advantage of the open agricultural areas along the Green River..." We don't think farm land is something to be taken advantage of. On the contrary, we believe farm land is a resource that needs to be conserved so future generations can continue to grow crops to feed people and livestock.

Q. How else will the proposed transmission line affect your property?

In 2001 we completed a new home on the farm at a cost of about \$260,000. A landscape architect from Nashville was commissioned in 1982 to design landscaping for the entire farm and an architect from Florida was commissioned and flown to the farm in 1995 to plan and site the new house to best relate to the viewscape. The proposed power line will destroy the viewscape of the entire farm. If this line is built on the proposed route we will be looking at a 161-kV high tension power line on 90-foot poles, crossing our entire farm within 1500 feet of our home. This house was not even recognized in the EKPC siting study because they used Landsat imagery dating from 1992. The long term

economic cost of having this intrusive power line strung all the way across our farm is impossible to estimate or to compensate.

Also, we have been told that the mature hickory trees near the river on our farm provide ideal habitat for the endangered Indiana brown bat. We tried to engage the services of a biologist to do mist netting on the farm to check for this and other bat species, but because of the short time frame we were unable to make the necessary arrangements.

Q. Did EKPC consider any alternatives to its proposed route?

100 A. Yes.

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A.

Can you identify any alternative that would avoid the costs that you describe?

Yes. In fact, the degradation of economic, environmental and scenic resources is completely unnecessary. The EKPC siting study identified several alternate routes for the Wilson-Aberdeen line. One of these alternates parallels existing transmission lines, requires the taking of fewer miles of new rights-of-way, eliminates two Green River crossings, affects far less farm land, and completely avoids the National Register sites I have described. The primary reason this siting study recommended the presently selected route over this alternate was that the preferred route takes advantage of agricultural areas. No consideration was given to the permanent degradation of irreplaceable historic and archaeological sites which commemorate our heritage.

The Commission's Staff Consultant, ICF Resources, L.L.C., concluded that EKPC did not adequately consider route options utilizing existing rights-of-way or other easements that would minimize the environmental impact of the proposed project. The Consultant stated that "[s]uch an analysis would provide valuable insights as to the costs

and benefits of avoiding the need for new rights-of-way if compared to the current proposed plan." We urge the Public Service Commission to insist that EKPC re-evaluate its siting study and propose a transmission line route that utilizes, to the fullest extent possible, existing rights-of-way.

Q. Have you had adequate time to prepare your case?

No. We have had only a few weeks to prepare whereas EKPC has had more than two years to prepare their case with unlimited attorneys and no regard for expense. We landowners have not received due process, let alone adequate time to obtain expert assistance on such short notice. The utility has been planning this line since they prepared a proposal for submission to WRECC to change from TVA as their power supplier. It is unreasonable to expect ordinary landowners to have comparable resources at their disposal; furthermore, this hearing concerns transmission lines for power grid expansion where proof of necessity has not been established.

Q. How should the Commission decide in this case?

Based on these concerns, I respectfully request that the Public Service Commission decline to approve this project at least until more careful consideration has been given to avoiding prime farm land, complying with Federal laws, and using existing rights-of-way.

Q. Does this conclude your testimony?

134 A. Yes.

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VERIFICATION

COLINTY OF Butler	þ
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STATE OF KENTLUKY	þ

The undersigned. There Tichenor, being duly sworn, deposes and says she has personal knowledge of the matters set forth in the linegeing lestiment, and that the massers explained therein are true and correct to the best of her information, knowledge, and belief.

Dorig Lichener

Subscribed and swern to believe me, a Manry Public in and believe said County and State, This 209day of September 2005.

KOYARY PUBLIC

My commission expires:

11-12-08

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing was duly served by mailing, first class postage propaid to the following:

Hon. A. W. Turner Public Service Commission 211 Sower Boulovard P.O. Box 615 Franklint, Kontucky ±0602 <u>Anturnatioky pos</u>

Elizabeth O'Donnell
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Roger R Civalen Sherman Goodpastet

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194	James M. Miller	
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205	Hugh Hendrick	
206	4140 Scottsville Road	
207	Smiths Grove, KY 42171	
208		
209	Joey Roberts	
210	4234 Scottsville Road	
211	Smiths Grove, KY 42171	
212		
213	This the 6th day of September, 2005.	
214	-	1.900
215		Robert W. Griffith
216		Robert W. Griffith
217		Jennifer B. Swyers
218		Stites & Harbison, PLLC
219		400 W. Market Street
220		Suite 1800
221		Louisville, KY 40202
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223		Counsel for Intervenors
224		Carroll and Doris Tichenor
225		and John Colliver
226		
-		
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SEP 0 6 2005

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BARREN, WARREN, BUTLER, AND)
OHIO COUNTIES, KENTUCKY)

TESTIMONY OF LESLIE E. BARRAS

Filed: September 6, 2005

- 1 Q. Please state your name and address.
- 2 A. My name is Leslie E. Barras. My address is River Fields, Inc., 643 West Main Street,
- 3 Suite 200, Louisville, KY 40202-2921.
- 4 Q. What is your professional background?
- 5 A. I am the Associate Director of River Fields, Inc. I also am the Conservation Chair of the
- 6 Greater Louisville Group of the Sierra Club. Formerly, I was a Principal Project
- 7 Manager with Radian International, where I directed projects relating to permitting,
- 8 regulatory analysis and compliance, auditing, training, and site investigations. In my
- 9 capacity at River Fields, as a volunteer with the Sierra Club, and in my former position at
- Radian, my 22 years of experience includes projects subject to the National Historic
- 11 Preservation Act.
- 12 Q. Have you testified before this Commission before?
- 13 A. Yes, I provided direct testimony before this Commission in Case Number 2005-00142.
- 14 Q. What is your interest in this case?
- 15 A. I am making this statement to inform the Public Service Commission that the route that it
- has been asked to certify could be changed dramatically upon EKPC's satisfaction of
- 17 Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act ("Section 106"). In contradiction
- of those laws, EKPC has chosen the route for their proposed transmission line without
- first inviting the comments and participation of Consulting Parties (see definition below).
- In fact, EKPC has chosen the route of its proposed transmission line without first
- identifying historic properties that would be affected by this undertaking. Upon doing so,
- 22 it is very likely that these federal laws will require EKPC to substantially alter the route
- of its proposed transmission line. Because the selected route is as much at issue in this

case as the electrical need for this transmission line, it is necessary for this Commission to have complete confidence that the route it certifies is the route that will be constructed. EKPC has indicated that it will determine the impacts of its proposal on historic sites after securing the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. The Commission must withhold its Certification until EKPC can provide sufficient guarantees that the route proposed is the route that will be constructed. This guarantee can only come after EKPC has satisfied Section 106.

Q. What does Section 106 require?

A.

Because EKPC is receiving federal assistance for this project from the Rural Utilities Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, EKPC, vis-à-vis the Rural Utilities Service, must satisfy the requirements of Section 106. The Section 106 regulations, 36 C.F.R. Part 800 define "undertaking" as "a project, activity, or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency, including those carried out by or on behalf of a Federal agency; those carried out with Federal financial assistance; those requiring a Federal permit, license or approval; and those subject to State or local regulation administered pursuant to a delegation or approval by a Federal agency." 36 C.F.R.§ 800.16(y). The proposed transmission line is an "undertaking."

Section 106 requires EKPC to examine the adverse effects of the proposed "undertaking" on sites on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and afford the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to the undertaking before the Public Service Commission may approve their application. 16 U.S.C. § 470f.

Q. What must EKPC do to satisfy Section 106?

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- A. The regulations require EKPC to determine the area of potential effect (APE), *id.* §

 800.4(a)(1); identify, through consultation, the National Register-listed or eligible historic

 properties within the APE, *id.* § 800.4(b); determine whether the undertaking will

 adversely affect any identified historic properties, *id.* § 800.5; and resolve those adverse

 effects through avoidance or mitigation as documented in a Memorandum of Agreement, *id.* § 800.6(b).
- On you believe that there are National Register-listed or eligible historic properties that will be affected by the proposed project?
- Yes. "An adverse effect is found when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly,
 any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion in
 the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's
 location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association." *Id.* §
 800.5(a)(1). At the very least, the proposed project will adversely affect the historic sites
 on the Tichenor property and the Perkins property.

Q. What should EKPC do?

Broadly speaking, EKPC first must begin the Section 106 process by identifying the area of potential effect. In this process, EKPC must involve consulting parties in its findings and determinations. 36 C.F.R. § 800.2(a)4. The Advisory Council rules implementing Section 106 require that Consulting Parties be identified and given an opportunity to participate in consultation with the private applicant, other Consulting Parties, the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Advisory Council, and the public during each step of the Section 106 process, *id.* § 800.3(f). "Consulting Parties" include "individuals and

organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking [who] may participate [in the Section 106 process] due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties." *Id.* § 800.2.

Second, EKPC must, "except where appropriate to protect confidentiality concerns of affected parties, provide the public with information about an undertaking and its effects on historic properties and seek public comment and input." 36 C.F.R. § 800.2(d)(2). State Historic Preservation Officers, "other consulting parties, and organizations and individuals who may be concerned with the possible effects of an agency action on historic properties should be prepared to consult with agencies early in the NEPA process, when the purpose of and need for the proposed action as well as the widest possible range of alternatives are under consideration." 36 C.F.R. § 800.8(a)(2).

Third, EKPC "should ensure that preparation of . . . an Environmental Impact Statement . . . includes appropriate scoping, identification of historic properties, assessment of effects upon them, and consultation leading to resolution of any adverse effects." 36 C.F.R. §800.8(a)(3), keeping in mind that EKPC must "ensure that a determination, finding, or agreement under the procedures in this subpart is supported by sufficient documentation to enable any reviewing parties to understand its basis." 36 C.F.R. § 800.11(a). Sufficient documentation includes, but may not be limited to:

- A map of the APE with supporting data on how the proposed APE was derived
 (e.g., direct impact corridor, viewshed analyses, footprint for construction)
- aesthetic and visual quality documentation, including viewshed maps;
- federal prime and unique farmlands analysis;

93		• report on the elements of community character;
94		report on listed or eligible properties identified within the APE, including
95		boundaries of properties, such as historic farms.
96		• report on any other utilities that may have to be relocated during construction;
97		An alternatives analysis providing documentation of why corridors have been
98		eliminated from consideration;
99		• information regarding indirect and cumulative effects on historic properties and
100		resources; and
101		• information that would allow the Consulting Parties to respond to the scope and
102		adequacy of the archaeological resources evaluation.
103		All of this information is necessary to provide meaningful comment on the APE,
104		identification of historic properties within the APE, potential effects upon those
105		properties, and proposed measures to resolve (mitigate or avoid) any adverse effects.
106	Q.	Has EKPC fulfilled any of these obligations?
107	A.	No. Based on the law outlined above, EKPC should have engaged the Consulting Parties
108		prior to and in furtherance of their evaluation of alternatives to the proposed transmission
109		line, including alternative corridors.
110	Q.	How should the Commission rule?
111	A.	In light of EKPC's failure to execute its responsibilities under Section 106, the Public
112		Service Commission should suspend its consideration of EKPC's application until EKPC
113		initiates and completes the Section 106 process.
114	Q.	Does this conclude your testimony?
115	A.	Yes.

116	<u>VERIFICATION</u>
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118	
119	COUNTY OF Jefferson)) ss:
120	\mathcal{I}) ss:
121	STATE OF KENTUCKY)
122	
123	The undersigned, Leslie E. Barras, being duly sworn, deposes and says she has personal
124	knowledge of the matters set forth in the foregoing testimony, and that the answers contained
125	therein are true and correct to the best of her information, knowledge, and belief.
126	Sefii E. Barres
127	Latia E. Damas
128	Lesne E. Banas
129	Gul and and annual to before me a Notary Public in and before gaid County and State
130	Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and before said County and State, This the day of September, 2005.
131 132	This 4 day of September 2003.
133	
134	
135	NOTĂRY PUBLIC
136	
137	My commission expires: 12-19-06
138	
139	
1.40	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
140 141	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
142	I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing was duly served by mailing, first class
143	postage prepaid to the following:
144	postage prepare to the following.
145	Hon. A. W. Turner
146	Public Service Commission
147	211 Sower Boulevard
148	P.O. Box 615
149	Frankfort, Kentucky 40602
150	Aw.turner@ky.gov
151	
152	Elizabeth O'Donnell
153	Executive Director
154	Commonwealth of Kentucky
155	Public Service Commission
156	211 Sower Boulevard
157	PO Box 615
158	Frankfort, KY 40602-0615
159	December December
160	Roger R. Cowden

161	Sherman Goodpaster	
162	East Kentucky Power Cooperative	
163	4775 Lexington Road	
164	PO Box 707	
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167	Attorney General Greg Stumbo	
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187	Joey Roberts	
188	4234 Scottsville Road	
189	Smiths Grove, KY 42171	
190		
191	m: 1 /th 1 cg 1 1 2005	
192	This the $_{6}^{i}$ day of September, 2005.	
193		Minder & Snun
194		Robert W. Griffith
195		Jennifer B. Swyers
196		Stites & Harbison, PLLC
197		400 W. Market Street
198		Suite 1800
199		Louisville, KY 40202
200		Douisvillo, ILI 10202
201		Counsel for Intervenors
202		Carroll and Doris Tichenor
203	•	and John Colliver
204 205		Will College College
205		
200		

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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SE	P	Q	A	2005

IN THE MATTER OF:

	Control to the state of the sta
APPLICATION OF EAST KENTUCKY)
POWER COOPERATIVE FOR A)
CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE)DOCKET NO.
AND NECESSITY FOR CONSTRUCTION)2005-00207
OF TRANSMISSION FACILITIES IN)
BARREN, WARREN, BUTLER, AND)
OHIO COUNTIES, KENTUCKY)

TESTIMONY OF GEORGE R. MILNER, PH. D.

Filed: September 6, 2005

Q. What is your name and address?

A.

A. My name is George R. Milner, and my permanent residence is 448 Orlando Ave., State

College, PA, 16803. I am employed as Professor of Anthropology and Interim

Department Head at The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA, 16802. I

am not representing Penn State in this testimony.

Q. What is your professional background?

I have over 30 years of experience participating, usually directing, archaeological surveys (to locate sites) and excavations (to investigate sites in detail), starting as a student in 1971. All told, I have spent 62 months conducting fieldwork, a conservative estimate. My geographical area of specialization is the Midwestern United States, and I have conducted fieldwork in Illinois, Kentucky, Wisconsin, and Missouri (in order from most to least). I have also participated in excavations or studied collections in Micronesia (Saipan, part of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), Egypt, and Denmark. I have two topical areas of specialization: eastern North American archaeology and human osteology. With regard to the former, I have spent much of my career investigating late prehistoric societies referred to as Mississippian (AD 1000-1600).

My degrees have all been in anthropology, culminating in a Ph.D. in 1982 from Northwestern University, Evanston, IL. Subsequent to my graduation, I have been employed by the University of Illinois on a Cultural Resource Management (highway) project; the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC, as a postdoctoral fellow; the University of Kentucky Museum of Anthropology as Director; and Penn State as a member of its faculty (now Professor).

Q. What is your interest in this case?

A.

I have spent part of three summers – 2002, 2003, and 2004 – excavating a major Mississippian site on the property of Doris and Carroll Tichenor. I first met the Tichenors in 2001 when one of my graduate students, Scott Hammerstedt, was looking for an archaeological site for his doctoral research. I was aware of the site because it had been partially excavated in 1939-1940 as part of the state-wide Works Progress Administration (WPA) archaeological project directed by William S. Webb (deceased) of the University of Kentucky. I first learned of the site while organizing New Deal era collections at the University of Kentucky Museum of Anthropology when I was its Director in 1984-1986 (now the WS Webb Museum of Anthropology).

At the time of our first meeting in 2001, I was not personally aware of the present condition of the site, although it was a National Register property. Upon examining the site firsthand, it was apparent that it had great scientific potential.

My first meeting with the Tichenors was followed by a short season of work in 2002, and two longer Penn State field schools in 2003 and 2004. Taken together, I have spent about 12 weeks on the property. The most notable outcome so far from work at the site has been a doctoral dissertation by Scott Hammerstedt, who was awarded his Ph.D. in August 2005.

Based on my experience in study the sites on the Tichenor property, I have increasingly appreciate the unique scientific value of the historic and archaeological sites. I am making this statement to inform the Commission that the proposed project threatens that value.

Q.	Please describe the archaeological resources in the general area of the proposed
	project.

A.

The Green River area of Kentucky is widely recognized among archaeologists as being unusually rich in archaeological sites, especially those dating to prehistoric times. In fact, it was one of several parts of the state that were identified as especially important by the earliest systematically conducted research in the state undertaken by William S. Webb, among others. Much of this work was supported by New Deal agencies, most notably the WPA. The major Mississippian period site on the Tichenor property was one of the sites partly excavated by the WPA.

The Green River is best known for its Archaic period (8000-1000 BC) sites, especially shell and earth middens (great heaps of debris) dating to the most recent half of that time interval (4500-1000 BC). These sites are distributed across several counties, including Butler. A number of the middens have been excavated, starting early in the 20th century and continuing through the Great Depression (WPA projects) to the present. Recent projects include, among others, Patty Jo Watson (Washington University) and William Marquardt's (Florida Museum of Natural History) Shell Mound Archaeological Project, and my own work with Richard W. Jefferies (University of Kentucky).

Q. Are the archaeological sites on the Tichenor property unique to the general area?

Yes. The much later Mississippian period site on the Tichenor property is unusual insofar as it is the only major late prehistoric settlement known to have existed along the part of the Green River that is widely known for its Archaic sites. In fact, it has special significance because it is at the edge of the Mississippian occupation of Kentucky (the northeastern edge of Mississippian occupation extends in a roughly northwest to

southeast direction, excluding the Bluegrass and most of the rest of the eastern part of the state). The site is, therefore, both unusual for the Green River area and of particular scientific significance because it is one of a relatively few examples of a partly excavated Mississippian settlement on a cultural "frontier."

Q. What are the unique qualities of Mississippian sites?

Mississippian sites include those associated with the most organizationally complex societies that existed in prehistoric times within the borders of the United States. These societies are commonly called chiefdoms, a diverse group of societies that share key characteristics including an organization along kinship lines and inherited but weak leadership that lacks coercive power. For over 20 years, the eastern United States (specifically, the southern Midwest and Southeast) has seen some of the most active research worldwide in the study of prehistoric chiefdoms.

What is your evaluation of the historic and archaeological sites on the Tichenor property?

There are two National Register sites on the Tichenor property: a historic house where a ferry was once located (Carson's Landing), and a Mississippian period village including two earthen mounds. My area of expertise is in prehistoric archaeology and I have personal familiarity with the Mississippian site, so my remarks will be largely confined to the village and mounds. The village and two mounds are referred to as Annis Mound and Village (hereafter Annis), and have the following designations in the Office of State Archaeology site file: 15BT2, 15BT20, and 15BT21 (the number 15 designates Kentucky, BT is Butler County, and the last number indicates the entry in the state site file).

Q.

The Annis site, which dated to between AD 1260-1400, consists of two mounds and a village. One of the mounds (15BT21) was located outside the village, which in prehistoric times was surrounded by a wooden palisade (wall of vertical posts). The main village (15BT20) consisted of wooden houses surrounded by three sequential palisades, as well as a flat-topped rectangular mound (15BT2).

The mound (15BT21) located outside the palisade was excavated by the WPA (the full extent of the WPA excavation is unknown because some original notes have been lost over the past 60 years). It contained little in the way of materials, although there were several human burials. The dating of this particular mound is uncertain, although it probably was earlier than the Mississippian occupation of the remaining part of the site.

The flat-topped rectangular mound was completely excavated by the WPA. Prior to this work, Clarence Moore excavated a large pit in the mound, as described in his report published in 1916. The WPA excavators found that the mound consisted of several sequential construction episodes, and wooden structures had once stood on each level.

The WPA archaeologists also excavated part of the village, uncovering the remnants of palisades, buildings, storage pits, and hearths, among other features. The recent Penn State work also focused on village deposits. This work was designed to locate the old WPA grid by finding recognizable features (2002), to clarify the village layout, and to obtain materials important to current research questions that were not collected earlier (for example, food remains and samples for radiocarbon dating). As part of his doctoral research, Scott Hammerstedt reconstructed what the WPA found in the

mounds and village based on old field notes, maps, photographs, and collections. He also incorporated the results of the recent Penn State work in his dissertation.

The village – the part of Annis within the outermost of three sequential palisades – is estimated as encompassing 11,000 m². This estimate is based on a conservative projection of the outermost palisade through a part of the Tichenor property (a low field) where neither the WPA nor Penn State crews worked. As much as 2 m have eroded from this part of the river bank since 1940, based on the locations of the steep river bank as mapped by the WPA and Penn State projects. It is unclear how much of the river edge had eroded before 1940, although perhaps as much as 2,000 m² has disappeared into the river since the Mississippian occupation. So the original size of the village may have been as large as 1.3 ha (13,000 m²), or even bigger if a wider palisade arc through the lower field is used.

The important issue is how much is presently left of the village: approximately one-half (49%) of the area within the outermost palisade has not been excavated (5386 m² excavated of an estimated 11,000 m² area). That figure combines the WPA (5231 m²) and Penn State (251 m²) work; there were 96 m² of overlap stemming from our excavation to reconcile the two grids. The Penn State work resulted in 41 artifacts per square meter (pottery plus stone tools and debris), ten times the yield of the WPA work because methods have improved over the years. The combined excavations uncovered 17 areas where buildings were located. Structures were often rebuilt on or near their original locations; at least 31 separate buildings were identified in these 17 places. Equivalent artifact and structure densities can be expected in the unexcavated part of the village.

There are other potentially significant archaeological sites on the Tichenor property. Three were found when Penn State's field school systematically walked across plowed fields in the summers of 2003 and 2004. The field school only examined part of the Tichenor property for additional sites; we examined only areas that were plowed where prehistoric artifacts (stone tools and chipping debris, as well as pottery) would be visible if present. That is, vegetated areas covered by grass and trees were not examined. The three recently identified sites have been designated by the Office of State Archaeology as 15BT119, 15BT120, and 15BT121. One of these sites, 15BT120, is presumably related to the occupation of the main village (the National Register site) because it dates to the same time period, to judge from the pottery found there. Cultural materials were scattered over an area measuring 300 m². This site, presumably a farmstead, has considerable scientific potential because it is one of only a few such sites identified to date in the Green River area. A second site, 15BT121, consists of a scatter of stone tools and debris distributed across 6,400 m² on a low rise. It is thought to date to the Late Archaic period (3000-1000 BC). A third site, 15BT119, refers to stone debris thinly scattered over 12,000 m² along the edge of a field adjacent to the wooded edge of the Green River. There is, at least, a Late Archaic occupation of this area, to judge from a projectile point that was found. While the density of debris is low, it is important because it indicates there could be site materials closer to the river, an area that has not been investigated because it is heavily vegetated.

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In addition, isolated items were occasionally discovered in other parts of the Tichenor fields, although because they were so widely scattered and not diagnostic of time period they did not warrant designation as separate sites (based on what we now

know). These areas should be reexamined under different field conditions to determine if more materials are present.

Q. In what ways does the proposed project threaten these sites?

A.

It is my understanding that the proposed corridor encompasses both the prehistoric and historic National Register sites on the Tichenor farm. Furthermore, the corridor also includes three sites recently identified in plowed fields on the Tichenor property in the vicinity of the two National Register sites. Based on the locations of the partly excavated Annis site (15BT2, 20) along with a newly discovered scatter of debris (15BT119), it is likely there will be as yet unidentified archaeological sites located within the wooded area that borders the Green River.

The transmission line is likely to have both direct and indirect effects on the prehistoric and historic resources on the Tichenor farm. By direct impact, I am referring to the damage to known sites that would occur when installing and maintaining the transmission line. It also refers to the negative effect of construction and maintenance activities – to the extent they damage the river bank – that will likely increase erosion and bank recession. This increased erosion will occur precisely where the potential for as yet unidentified archaeological sites is greatest. By indirect impact, I refer to the greater visibility of hitherto well-protected National Register sites, one marked by an earthen mound and the other a standing structure, to the public after the transmission line is constructed. A cleared right of way, from the bank into the field, provides a ready path for unauthorized and unwanted access to the property, putting the sites, especially those on the National Register, at greater risk. The looting of archaeological sites is, unfortunately, all too common in the United States, including Kentucky, and it represents

184		one of the greatest threats to cultural resources that are of significance to the public at		
185		large.		
186	Q.	How should the Public Service Commission decide in this case?		
187	A.	I request that the Public Service Commission deny the transmission line application. The		
188		proposed corridor through the Tichenor farm encompasses several prehistoric and historic		
189		sites of considerable significance, so much so that two are already listed on the National		
190		Register.		
191	Q.	Does this conclude your testimony?		
192	A.	Yes.		
193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205	STAT	VERIFICATION OTY OF CENTRE) ss: E OF PENNSYL VANIA The undersigned, George R. Milner, being duly sworn, deposes and says he has personal edge of the matters set forth in the foregoing testimony; and that the answers contained are true and correct to the best of his information, knowledge, and belief. George R. Milner		
206 207 208 209 210 211		ribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and before said County and States day of September 2005.		
212 213 214 215		RY PUBLIC Notarial Seal Namcy L. Minnier, Notary Public Monroe Twp., Snyder County My Commission Expires Peb. 3, 2008 Member, Pennsylvania Association of Notaries		
216 217		CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE		
218 219 220	postag	I hereby certify that a true copy of the foregoing was duly served by mailing, first class e prepaid to the following:		

221 222 Hon. A. W. Turner 223 Public Service Commission 224 211 Sower Boulevard 225 P.O. Box 615 226 Frankfort, Kentucky 40602 227 Aw.turner@ky.gov 228 229 Elizabeth O'Donnell 230 **Executive Director** 231 Commonwealth of Kentucky 232 **Public Service Commission** 233 211 Sower Boulevard 234 PO Box 615 235 Frankfort, KY 40602-0615 236 237 Roger R. Cowden 238 Sherman Goodpaster East Kentucky Power Cooperative 239 240 4775 Lexington Road 241 PO Box 707 242 Winchester, KY 40392-0707 243 244 Attorney General Greg Stumbo Office of the Attorney General 245 246 State Capitol, Suite 118 247 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 248 249 James M. Miller 250 Tyson Kamuf Sullivan, Mountjoy, Stainback & Miller, PSC 251 252 100 St. Ann Street, P.O. Box 727 253 Owensboro, Kentucky 42302-0727 254 255 David A. Spainhoward 256 VP, Contract Administration and Regulatory Affairs 201 Third Street, P.O. Box 24 257 258 Henderson, Kentucky 42420-0024 259 260 Hugh Hendrick 261 4140 Scottsville Road 262 Smiths Grove, KY 42171 263 264 Joey Roberts 265 4234 Scottsville Road

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Smiths Grove, KY 42171

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268	This the 6th day of September, 2005.	•
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270		Cerriber D. Sny
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272		Jennifer B. Swyers
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278		Counsel for Intervenors
279		Carroll and Doris Tichenor
280		and John Colliver
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